

What is claimed is:

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1. A threshold assembly comprising:
a substrate made of at least two substrate sections
attached together end-to-end;

a sill mounted on said substrate; and

not shown (a threshold cap mounted on said substrate).

2. A threshold assembly as claimed in claim 1 and wherein
said substrate sections are attached together with dovetail
tongues on (the end) of one substrate section received and
interlocked within corresponding dovetail grooves in (the
adjacent end) of (the other substrate section).

3. A threshold assembly as claimed in claim 1 and wherein
said substrate sections are made of plastic.

4. A threshold assembly as claimed in claim 3 and wherein
said substrate sections are made of plastic and a filler.

5. A threshold assembly as claimed in claim 3 and wherein
said plastic is recycled plastic.

6. A threshold assembly as claimed in claim 5 and further comprising a filler mixed with said recycled plastic.

7. A threshold assembly as claimed in claim 6 and wherein said filler is rice hulls.

8. A threshold assembly as claimed in claim 6 and wherein said filler is (wood flower).

9. A method of assembling a threshold assembly comprising the steps of:

(a) attaching a first substrate section end-to-end to a second substrate section to form a substrate having a total length corresponding to the sum of the lengths of the substrate sections; and

(b) mounting a sill to the attached substrate sections with the sill extending substantially the length of the substrate.

10. The method of claim 9 and further comprising the step of mounting a threshold cap on the substrate.

11. The method of claim 10 and further comprising the step of attaching a nosing strip to the substrate to cover the

intersection between the two substrate sections and provide an aesthetically pleasing appearance.

12. A method of fabricating a threshold assembly comprising the steps of attaching a predetermined number of substrate sections together in end-to-end relationship to form a substrate having a length corresponding to the sum of the lengths of the substrate sections, mounting a continuous sill to the substrate with the sill extending substantially the length of the substrate.

13. The method of claim 12 and wherein the substrate sections are made of plastic and wherein the sill is made of extruded aluminum.

14. The method of claim 13 and wherein the substrate is formed to define an upwardly open channel extending along a back side of the sill and further comprising the step of installing a threshold cap in the upwardly open channel of the substrate.

15. The method of claim 14 and wherein each substrate section is formed with a nosing along the interior edge of the substrate and further comprising the step of installing a nosing strip on the nosings of the attached substrate sections to cover

the junctions between adjacent sections and to provide a pleasing aesthetic appearance from the inside of a building in which the threshold assembly is installed.

16. A threshold assembly for an entryway, said threshold assembly comprising:

an elongated substrate formed from at least two substrate sections joined together in end-to-end relationship;

a sill mounted to and at least partially covering said substrate, said sill defining a sill deck supported by said substrate.

17. A threshold assembly as claimed in claim 16 and wherein said sill is formed of extruded aluminum and wherein said substrate sections are molded from deterioration resistant material.

18. A threshold assembly as claimed in claim 17 and wherein said deterioration resistant material is selected from the group consisting of plastic, plastic composite, plastic and a filler, wood composites, and wood and epoxy composites.

19. A threshold assembly as claimed in claim 16 and wherein said substrate and said sill define an upwardly open

channel extending along said threshold assembly and further comprising a threshold cap positioned within said upwardly open channel to underlie a closed door of an entryway in which said threshold is installed.

20. A threshold assembly as claimed in claim 19 and further comprising a panel cap positioned in said upwardly open channel to underlie a sidelight panel of an entryway in which said threshold assembly is installed.

21. A process for fabricating a threshold assembly of a predetermined length comprising the steps of:

(a) selecting two or more substrate sections whose lengths add up substantially to said predetermined length;

(b) attaching the two or more substrate sections together in end-to-end relationship to form a support substrate;

(c) mounting an aluminum sill on said support substrate to define a sill deck supported by said substrate and to reinforce said joined together substrate sections.

22. The process of claim 21 and wherein said substrate and said sill define an upwardly open channel and further comprising the step of positioning a threshold cap in the upwardly open channel.

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